



southern california dx club

FEBRUARY 2002



The 2002 officers and board of the SCDXC

Jim - K6DHz, Charlotte - KB6FXS, Larry - K6YUI, Chuck - KR6C, Cathy, Skip - KJ6Y, Harv - K6EXO, and Herb - KG6OK

Soap Box— Words from our President

de KJ6Y



I want to thank everyone who has put his or her faith in me to be your president this year. I will try to live up to your expectations and all of the past presidents. Thanks to Chuck, KR6C for doing a fantastic job as last years Prez.

We start this year with some good DX. As I'm writing this, the VP8 group has left South Sandwich and is in route to South Georgia. We also have DXpeditions to San Felix and Baker/

Howland with several of our own club members taking part. Of course there is still the P5 that I have to work. Afghanistan should be on in March and Dolcie Island for an all time new one for everyone. Hope they make it this time.

Progress on the Convention is coming along. Be sure to get your reservations in and don't forget to order the convention shirt with your call sign.

I was down in the San Diego area and was able to attend the San Diego DX Club meeting. I already knew many of the members, and there are also looking forward to the convention. They'll be doing the "Do you want to be a DX Millionaire", serving at the Friday night cocktail party and helping with banquet seating and registration.

Harv has informed me there are still a few who haven't paid their 2002 dues. Please send your dues to K6EXO to make sure you'll be on the new roster. Herb, our new VP is looking for programs. Let him know when and he'll schedule you in.

Harv wants this message so he can put the newsletter to bed, so I'll hope to see everyone at the February meeting. It's Valentines Day, so take the spouse out for a nice dinner and then to the meeting.

DXer of the Year and Clipperton Awards

This month is when the candidates for these awards have to get their paper work sent to the board. February 28 comes quick. Do it NOW!



Order of the Black Badge

SCDXC Elects 2002 Officers

The SCDXC elected the officers for 2002 at the January meeting. Here is the new board.

President:	Skip Bolnick KJ6Y
Vice President:	Herb Rosenberg KG6OK
Secretary:	Jim Shryne N6DHz
Treasurer:	Cathy Gardineas K6VC
Membership:	Harv Shore K6EXO
Director:	Charlotte Iseda KB6FXS
Director:	Larry Mallek K6YUI
Past President:	Chuck Constantine KR6C

Congratulations to the new officers and board.

Seen here Skip presents Chuck with the

BLACK BADGE.

Next General Meeting

The SCDXC meets the second Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be held February 14, 2002 at Syd Kronenthal Park in Culver City. The park is located 4 blocks west of La Cienega Blvd. and 2 blocks south of Washington Blvd. From the 10 Freeway exit La Cienega south to Washington Blvd. Turn right (west) 4 blocks to McManus Ave (it's La Cienega Ave to the right, McManus to the left). Turn left (south) 2 blocks to the Park. The street dead-ends at the parking lot. Please do not park in the school lot.

Rich Bongiorno W6VX will present a program entitled "Renewable Energy Sources for the 21st Century". Rich will talk about the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's participation in the search for "Green Power".

See ya there!

The Veeeeeep Speaks

de Herb, KG6OK



As we kick off another exciting year for the SCDXC, I would like to thank the members for this opportunity to serve as Vice President of our great

club. I look forward to working with Skip, KJ6Y, Cathy K6VC, Harv K6EXO, Charlotte, KB6FXS and our two newest Board Members, Jim N6DHZ, and Larry W6YUI. It looks to be another exciting year for the SCDXC.

With the demands of a new job, the VP role for the club, and Prize Committee Chairman for this year's Visalia DX Convention, I feel a bit overwhelmed, to say the least. I would appreciate your help with any ideas and suggestions for speakers, programs, or raffle prizes for this year's club meetings. Please feel free to call me via phone or email with any ideas or thoughts on this. I'll bet each of you have a great idea for a program or a prize just waiting to let out of the bag.

In closing, let me express my gratitude to Chuck KR6C for his outstanding service to the SCDXC last year as our President, and for his leadership through the past few years on our Board of Directors. Chuck's dedication to our club is

something I think we all recognize and appreciate, and he has done a great job leading us into the 21st Century of Ham Radio DXing!

73 for now de Herb - KG6OK - kg6ok@pacbell.net

Dues

Club dues (still \$18.00) for 2002 are past due. If you have not sent in your check — now is the time.

Checks should be sent to the membership chairman, K6EXO at 6433 Pat Ave. West Hills, CA 91307

DXPEDITION TO SAN FELIX (CHILE) 12-30 March 2002

Three of our club members will be traveling to Chile next month to be part of the San Felix Island expedition XR0X. Charlie Spetnagel, W6KK, John Kennon, N7CQQ, and Franz Langner DJ9ZB (Honorary member), will be team members.

Lying 900 km northwest of Valparaiso, San Felix is a barren rocky island about 3 km across, with two small islets nearby. Access to the site is restricted, due to the presence of a military garrison there. Little is known of the natural history of the island or of its possible prehistoric importance.

The major goal of this expedition is provide radio contact with this remote and seldom-activated island. Secondary goals include documenting indigenous species and searching for evidence of ancient occupation.

The expedition is being organized and led by Carlos G-Nascimento NP4IW/CE3AQI, who was a principal organizer of the 1995 Easter Island/Salas y Gomez (XROX/Y) and the 1997 Heard Island (VKOIR) expedi-



tions. The project is being carried out in conjunction with Cordell Expeditions (Robert Schmieder, KK6EK), a nonprofit organization that has carried out expeditions to remote sites for more than 20 years. All permits, including landing, radio operation, and specimen collections have been obtained.

In addition to John, Charlie and Frank, the 13-member team includes the following hams: P4IW,

K5AB, I8NHJ, E0YWS, N6MZ, KO4RR, KK6EK, HB9AHL, K5AND, N6TQS. The team and a 20-ft. container of gear will travel from Valparaiso (Chile) to San Felix aboard the Chilean Navy vessel Chacabuco, and be airlifted on the island by Chilean Navy helicopter. The vessel will then proceed on to Easter Island, leaving the team on San Felix. Returning 2 weeks later, the vessel will retrieve the crew and gear, and then return to Valparaiso.

The San Felix Expedition website is <<http://www.cordell.org/SFX>>

Propagation for February 2002

Spotting Derby

de K6EXO

by Shel, W6EL

These predictions for the five prime HF bands show the times when propagation is expected to be best from Los Angeles to several locations that are expected to be active during the coming month. Other times are possible, but with weaker signals or lower probability. Openings are not expected on bands that are not listed. A solar flux of 220, corresponding to a sunspot number of 172, and an average geomagnetic field are assumed.

Sunrise/sunset times are at the DX location. All times are UTC.
Good luck and good DX from Shel, W6EL.

T8/KC6 Belau/Palau - 2/9 to 2/12 -
Beam 285 degrees
Sunrise/sunset 2110/0854
80: 1130-1400.
40: 0930-1500.
20: 0630-1800.
15: 1630-1730 and 0430-0530.
10: 2100-0400.

GJ Jersey - 2/15 to 2/17 -
Beam 37 degrees
Sunrise/sunset 0720/1724
80: 0300-0730.
40: 0100-0830.
20: 0630-0730, 1130-1230
and 2230-0200.
15: 1500-2100.
10: 1630-1900.

FS Saint Martin - 2/11 to 2/22 -
Beam 93 degrees
Sunrise/sunset 1042/2210
80: 0300-1030.
40: 0100-1130.
20: 2300-1300.
15: 1430-0130.
10: 1530-2330.

V5 Namibia - 2/15 to 3/8 -
Beam 86 degrees
Sunrise/sunset 0450/1720
80: 0300-0430.
40: 0130-0500.
20: 2300-0700. Also long path
1500-1700.
15: 2000-0100.
10: 1500-2300.



The **winner** of the GLOBE for year 2001 is AI, **K6YRA..** W6TG was runner-op. Congratulations!

Band conditions remain pretty good. A few good long path openings were appreciated. Here are the numbers for Jan 2002.

Call	Spots	Score	N6IC	14	19
W6TG	67	203	W6M	11	19
W6VX	83	190	K6FG	6	18
W6LAX	118	178	W6GA	2	14
W6AUG	80	166	K6GX0	12	12
WA5VGI	71	133	K2PLF	2	12
WA6TLA	38	109	W6OES	5	8
K6IRA	67	108	W6RW	5	8
K6YRA	48	97	W6NRQ	4	8
N6DHz	33	73	K6ACZ	5	7
N6HY	40	64	K6JW	3	7
AD6KQ	34	58	WB9AWX	3	7
W6KK	25	54	K6SY	2	7
K6FR	9	53	W6Y00	1	7
W6ZH	31	50	N6OU	6	6
KC6T	26	47	N6RT	2	5
KG6OK	10	37	AA6RK	1	5
N6KZ	14	33	K6EX0	4	4
N6AV	11	30	WA6WXD	2	4
K6YUI	13	29	W6EA	1	3
W6SR	13	26	K6ADY	2	2
KJ6Y	17	24	K6CH	4	1
KN6H	16	24	W3SE	3	1
KR6C	15	23	W6RJ	1	1

International DX Convention 2002 Registration Form

April 26-28, 2002
Holiday Inn Visalia 9000 W. Airport Dr. Visalia, Ca

ARE YOU A NEWCOMER: Yes ☐ No ☐

GOLF TOURNAMENT: Yes ☐ No ☐

Name _____

Call _____ Golf Shirt: M ☐ LG ☐ XL ☐ XXL ☐

Name _____

Call _____ Golf Shirt: M ☐ LG ☐ XL ☐ XXL ☐

Address _____

City : _____

State : _____ Zip (Postal) Code: _____

Country: _____

Pre-Registration (prior to 15 March 2002): \$60.00 per person.... Total \$ _____

Late Registration (after 15 March 2002): \$65.00 per person.... Total \$ _____

Tour (April 27):

\$20.00 per person.... Total \$ _____

Golf Shirt(s): Quantity _____ X \$25.00..... Total \$ _____

Grand Total \$ _____

Banquet Meal Request: Chicken ☐ Prime

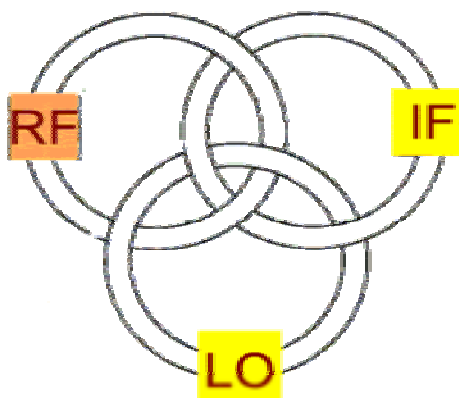
Rib ☐ Salmon ☐ Veggie ☐ Make Checks

Payable to: International DX Convention (no cash PLEASE) Send Registration form & checks to: Don Bostrom, N61C 4447 Atoll Avenue Sherman Oaks, CA 91423 E-mail questions to Don Bostrom, N61C at n6ic@arrl.net
www.qls.net/visalia2002

Ham Puzzle

By Milt, W6RJO

Z. K. (Zookeeper) Ham is putting the finishing touches on his long wire antenna by staking down the rope lanyard at the near end of the antenna. "Hay Caramba!", the staked lanyard just broke and flew up to near the pole-pulley, way out of reach. He lives next door to that famous zoo where he is employed, so he talked Koko the chimpanzee that reads sign language, into climbing the pole to grab the lanyard end and pull it down. Koko's weight just balances the weight of the now grounded feeder and antenna wire, so he just perches on the rope lanyard up there staring down. Exasperated, Z.K. H. excitedly signs--Roko to start pulling on the lanyard. The muscular Koko can start to pull on the lanyard to climb it at 2 feet per second, if the lanyard was still staked to the ground. Assuming the monkey-man communication channel still works, how fast does Koko go up the rope lanyard?



Answer to last months puzzle.

You have to look very closely at the rings. Note that they do not couple to each other. See — the LO ring lies on **TOP** of the RF ring and **UNDER** the IF ring. And, the RF ring lies on **TOP** of the IF ring and **UNDER** the LO ring, etc.

To couple they would look somewhat like a chain. Now, since the rings must physically couple to transfer power, the scheme as drawn will not work.

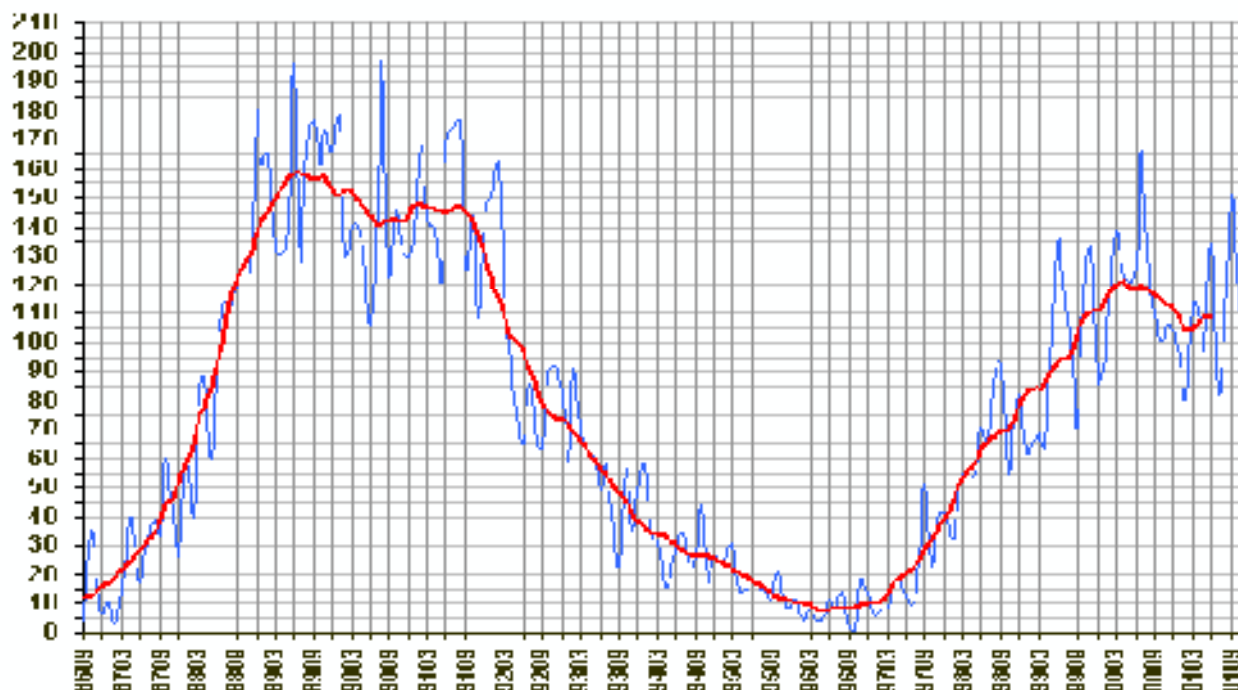
Solar cycles 21, 22 and 23

The graphics represent solar cycles 21-23. The red line is the monthly smoothed sunspot number while the blue line is the actual monthly sunspot number. Cycle 21 started in June 1976 with a smoothed sunspot number of 12.2. Cycle 22 started in September

1986 at 12.3. Cycle 23 started in May 1996 with the monthly SSN at 8.0 and peaked in April 2000 at 120.8. The last smoothed monthly sunspot number is for June 2001 and is 109.8. The next solar minimum will likely occur sometime between late 2005 and late 2006 with cycle 24 peaking in 2010.

Graphs with permission of Jan Alvested
www.dxlc.com/solar

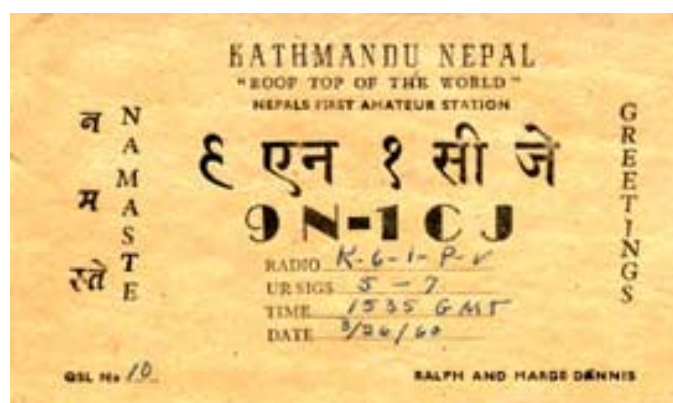
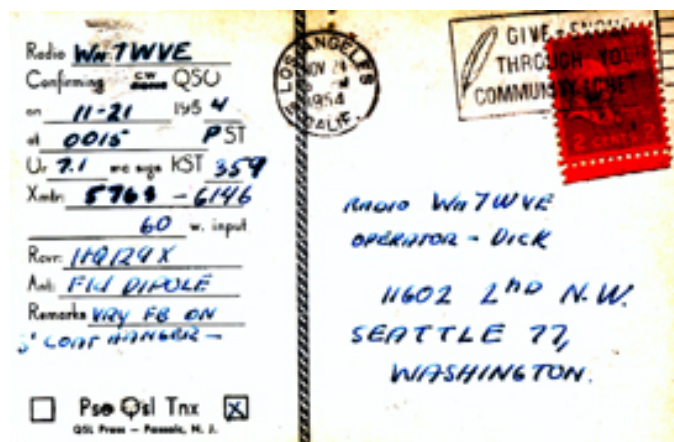
Solar Cycles 22-23



QSLs we remember

Ah the old days! Dick, W6KH (ex: W6ICJ, W7WVE) sends us this bit of bit of nostalgia: "I'm looking at a QSL card from KN6EXO at 1815 Preuss Rd, for a QSO with WN7WVE on 11-21-54, on the 40 meter novice band. This was one of my most memorable QSOs, as I was experimenting with a 3 foot piece of wire (coat hanger bent straight). The "whip" was soldered to a coil form with lots of turns (from a surplus WW2 tuning unit), and I found a spot on the coil where my 6 watt rig seemed to load. Only two stations answered me: a guy in Oakland who lost me (no QSL) and yourself. My parent's house was high on a hill and the shot to the south was good, but it was still pretty amazing! Since I was on the second floor, there was likely radiation from the AC lines in the shack, as well as what was coming off the 3 footer, hi. My "regular" antenna was a 44 foot vertical, which I built from a Radio TV News magazine article. I also remember that your card arrived in the mail the same day as the FCC confirmation that I had passed the General exam. A joyous moment!

I guess that anyone who could copy a 6 watt transmitter on a coat hanger, from 1000 miles away on 40 meters, was bound to become a DXer! It wasn't quite as big a strain from my end, as I was receiving on the 44 ft vertical. My parents' house turned out to be a super DXing QTH. I even got on the DXCC Honor Roll in 1964. I think that Ron Camp, K6EVR, and I were the youngest guys ever to make the HR (I was 24).



K6RO to be PJ2K

Larry, K6RO tells us that he be going to PJ2 in March again and will do a solo as PJ2K.

"I will be giving out a special award for the club member that works me the MOST during the test. QSOs before and after do not count.

I will be going with Ron W6UL. QSL via KU9C. "

Margie thanked Don, K6IPV, for her "Very first personal" QSL

Your QSL is wanted !
Send us your favorites

We visit the shack of:

KJ6Y

Far in to the wilds of Woodland Hills (far West San Fernando Valley), you can find the QTH of our new club president, Skip Bolnick, KJ6Y.

Skip was originally licensed in 1977 with the call WD6BYG. Considering that his first rig was Henry Tempo One it is hard to believe that he would one day be a DXer. However, as he tells the story:

"It was about 1979 when I went over to a friends house and he was working DX on CW because he only had 100 watts and a 2 el tribander. I was amazed that he could work all that DX. We were licensed at the same time and he already had DXCC. It was that experience that "turned me on to DX" and also work CW.

I upgraded to Amateur Extra class in 1979 but it took four more years (1983) to obtain DXCC.

My most interesting DX QSO was working 5A1A on 80 CW for Zone 34. Very difficult and seems to be the one zone everyone needs for 5 band WAZ.

I enjoy my profession in Amateur Radio. It is good to know that I have been a part of helping other Hams to get on the Honor Roll with BIG Antennas and Towers



A moderate antenna farm does an excellent job.



Marilyn holds the call N6GIL and has just started to build a DX score.



Skip worked His Majesty on two meters! Report was 59.



One of the best organized and NEAT shacks among the members of the SCDXC. Skip knows where EVERYTHING is.

FCC — CC&Rs

The FCC has affirmed a November 2000 staff-level decision that declined to include privately imposed deed covenants, conditions and restrictions--CC&Rs--under the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1. That policy requires municipalities to "reasonably accommodate" amateur communication in antenna-related zoning and regulation.

The ARRL last year appealed to have the full FCC review the earlier denial. The Commission turned down the League's Application for Review December 18 in a Memorandum Opinion and Order released December 26.

"There has not been a sufficient showing that CC&Rs prevent Amateur Radio operators from pursuing the basis and purpose of the Amateur Service," the FCC said. The Commission said hams still can get on the air without installing residential antenna systems by operating away from home, while mobile or at club stations.

*(Editors note:
When will the FCC staff understand
RADIO COMMUNICATIONS?
This issue should be brought to the
attention of your elected representatives.
Write them NOW!)*

SKs Reported

We are saddened to report the following DXers are SKs:

Barry Thompson, KG6O
Wendell Peirce, W6FSJ,
Charter member of the
SCDXC

NASA Has it Right!

SPACEWALK TO HELP ASTRO- NAUTS HAM IT UP IN COMFORT

As astronauts and cosmonauts have adapted to home life on the International Space Station, they have found connection to life here on Earth via ham radio to be a welcome companion.

During a recent space walk the crew installed an antenna system that ultimately will enable a key facet of the ham radio station to move into much more comfortable and convenient surroundings inside the station's living quarters.

Since November 2000 amateur radio equipment has been used by Expedition astronauts and cosmonauts to talk to hundreds of kids in schools around the world, as well as to friends, family and others on Earth.

During the space walk they installed the first of four antennas built by the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) team.

"The installation of this first antenna on the outside of Zvezda will allow the crew to set up ham radio equipment in their living quarters," said Frank Bauer, chief of the Guidance, Navigation and Control Center at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. "The Zarya location worked well, but this new setup is much more comfortable and convenient and should allow for more contact between the crew and amateur radio operators and schools on Earth."

The Russians designed Zvezda with four special ports for installation of antennas that serve two functions: amateur radio and a Russian Extravehicular Activity (EVA) -- or space walk --television system. The

antenna will support Russian video transmission during Russian space walks, and during normal operations will support amateur radio activities. The other three antennas will be installed later this year.

Like the space station itself, these new antennas are the result of an international team effort. The Italian partners provided one portion, the Russians designed the system and provided the EVA handling and attachment hardware, and NASA performed the assembly and tests to qualify the units for use in space.

More information about amateur radio on the space station is available at:

<http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/station/reference/radio/index.html>



Visalia Convention

If you have not sent in your registration for the SCDXC Visalia DX Convention — do it NOW.

SCDXC Supports the
NCDXF



Who We Are

The SCDXC Newsletter is published monthly by the Southern California DX Club and is e-mailed to all club members.

Please notify the editor if you do not receive your newsletter, have a change of address, or have found an error.

Please direct all submissions to the editor.

The SCDXC generally permits re-use of any article in the Newsletter as long as the newsletter and the article's author are credited. However, some articles are copyrighted by the author. Please contact the editor.

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This space is available for your Ham related ad.

There is no charge for SCDXC members.

Commercial ads (limited to Ham Radio) are also accepted. Send Email for fees.

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SCDXC Dues are \$18.00 per year, make checks payable to SCDXC